Hon. the Speaker. In that connection, it may be proper to say that the period of sittings of the House will cover the period of interval and also include the time when Members resort to the common rooms or cafetaria during the hours of the sittings.

MADRAS, V. K. THIRUVENKATACHARI,
17*th May* 1955. *Advocate-General.*

APPENDIX IV.

(1)

Letter from the Secretary to the State Legislature, Government Estate, Madras-2, to LEON J. RAYMOND, ESQ., O.B.E., B.A., Clerk of the House of Commons, Ottawa, Ont., Canada, dated 30th May 1955, No. 2871/55-10-M.L.

During the month of February 1955, the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly received a letter from a Magistrate in one of the districts in the State to the effect that a bailable warrant had been issued for the arrest of a member of the Assembly. The said member was residing in one of the Legislators' Hostels inside which the Legislature Committee Room is also now located. This Hostel, a separate building, is situated to the north-west of the Assembly Chamber, at a distance of about 75 yards with one or two other buildings and two roads in between. As the serving of criminal process " within the precincts of the House " when the House is sitting, would amount to breach of privilege, a question has arisen as to what would constitute " precincts ".

The Speaker, on the 14th March 1955, referred to the Committee of Privileges the question as to what construction should be put on the expression " precincts of the House " as regards the Madras Legislative Assembly.

Accordingly, the Committee of Privileges met on the 4th April 1955, and decided to obtain information on the principles that have been generally adopted in deciding what exactly constitutes " precincts " in other countries, especially Canada.

I shall, therefore, be thankful to you if you will kindly let me know by return of post the principle or principles that have been adopted in deciding what exactly constitutes " precincts " in the House of Commons, Canada.

Thanking you.

(2)

Gist of the opinion of Law Clerk, House of Commons, Canada, sent with the letter, dated 8th June 1955, from Clerk of the House of Commons, Canada, Ottawa.

In 1886, Speaker Wallbridge of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada in reprimanding and committing to the care of Sergeant-at-Arms during the pleasure of the House the

20th December 1956]

Assistant Librarian for breach of privilege which consisted in an assault *in the Library* upon the person of a Member of the House, he said that it was a power incidental to the Constitution of that House to preserve peace and order within its precincts. It was therefore clear that this Speaker must have thought at the time the *precincts* extended further than the House itself.

The Law Clerk of the House of Commons, Canada, has also given as his opinion that the word " precincts " comprises all the territory over which the Speaker has jurisdiction whether it be the Chamber of the House of Commons itself or the corridors or Committee Rooms or Members' Rooms surrounding it and even the Restaurant, the Library and the Parliamentary grounds.

APPENDIX V.

(1)

Letter from the Secretary to the State Legislature, Government Estate, Madras-2, to F. C. GREEN, ESQ., M.C., Clerk of the House of Representatives, Canberra, A.C.T., Australia, dated the 30th May 1955, No. 2871/55-10-M.L.

During the month of February 1955, the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly received a letter from a Magistrate in one of the districts in the State to the effect that a bailable warrant had been issued for the arrest of a member of the Assembly. The said member was residing in one of the Legislators' Hostels inside which the Legislature Committee Room is also now located. This Hostel, a separate building, is situated to the north-west of the Assembly Chamber at a distance of about 75 yards with one or two other buildings and two roads in between. As the serving of criminal process " within the precincts of the House " when the House is sitting would amount to breach of privilege, a question has arisen as to what would constitute " precincts ".

The Speaker, on the 14th March 1955, referred to the Committee of Privileges the question as to what construction should be put on the expression " precincts of the House " as regards the Madras Legislative Assembly.

Accordingly, the Committee of Privileges met on the 4th April 1955, and decided to obtain information on the principles that have been generally adopted in deciding what exactly constitutes " precincts " in other countries, especially Australia.

I shall therefore be thankful to you if you will kindly let me know by return of post the principle or principles that have been adopted in deciding what exactly constitutes " precincts " in the House of Representatives, Australia.

Thanking you.